

## BIRDS OF THE VIZAGAPATAM DISTRICT.

BY

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On my way back from Madras in March this year (1944), I visited friends in Vizagapatam whom I had warned of my coming under the impression that this would only take me a little out of my way. The 500-mile run northwards along the coastal plain was monotonous, but there were some striking differences as compared with the West Coast. Most of the area was under paddy and the marsh harrier was everywhere. Palmyras were amazingly abundant, closely grown palms even being used as hedges. All goats were black and the sheep a dirty brown, yielding the coarse 'red' wool of Madras. Along the sea-shore, often visible from the train, were dense plantations of *Casuarina* grown as firewood. (A friend in Madras talked of snipe-shooting in these plantations!)

North of the Godaverri almost every bird seen was something which the Vernay Ornithological Survey had overlooked. When I got into Waltair (a suburb of Vizagapatam port) I hustled B. into taking me over as much of the surrounding country as was possible over my 2-day stay. We shot a few cotton teal at Kondakarla, whence pink-headed duck were recorded many years ago. We ran up into the ghats 70 miles eastwards, and the country looked more and more intriguing. That magnificent tree *Cochlospermum gossypium* was in flower all over the hills, and the big red squirrel abundant and confiding. I got my first view of the red jungle fowl and there was so much to see that I came back determined to have another and better look at the country as soon as possible.

There are few places in India to which Charles McCann of the Natural History Society has not been for something or the other, but the Eastern Ghats was one of them, and we decided to do a short trip together mainly for ornithological investigations. We reached Vizagapatam on 24th May and with the co-operation and hospitality of my very good friends at Waltair we were able to cover a fairly large area in the relatively short time. We first went to Anantgiri 2,500' where La Personne, collecting on the Eastern Ghats Survey had camped from 4th Feb. to 15th May. We were here for two days including an evening run up to Sankrametta, 3,000'. We then went up to Lamasinghi 2,500' (Narsapatam Taluka) which is about 50 miles south of Anantgiri in the same range. These hills form the eastern fringe of the ghats which extend much further westwards into the lesser known regions of Bastar and Jeypore States and the forests of Raipur. We camped at Lamasinghi for four days, stayed in Waltair for a couple of days, including another look at Kondakarla, and then entrained for Bombay.

During this short trip we noted about 140 species of birds of which 73 had been overlooked by the Survey. Many of these

(27) are the commoner forms of the low country, which the Survey did not work. For the sake of completeness all the previous records from the district, mentioned in the Eastern Ghats report are included in this list, our 73 additions being marked with an asterisk, while a † indicates that the species (33) was obtained by La Personne but not found by us. This number includes at least 16 cold weather migrants.

There are obvious possibilities for further field work in this area—we pickled a few lizards and frogs and they fill large gaps in the known distribution—and we hope to be able to work further into the interior with more petrol and time. I would like to record our gratitude and thanks to Mr. and Mrs. B. F. Patuck without whose unstinted hospitality and enthusiasm the trip would never have been possible and also to Mr. McCann who seemed to enjoy skinning by candlelight, and whose decrepit and disreputable .22 added several interesting birds to our list.

(After this was written I went to Vizagapatam again during Christmas. Due to an unfortunate series of circumstances I was unable to get into the Hills and except for a couple of duck shoots did not go afield at all. A few notes made, however, reveal 16 additions to the last note, bringing the total of new records to 89. These together with supplementary notes on species already recorded are also incorporated herein.)

***Corvus macrorhynchos culminatus*** Sykes. The Jungle Crow.

Noted at Waltair, Anantgiri and Lamasinghi.

***Corvus splendens splendens*** Vieillot. The House Crow.

Common at Waltair—on nest! Absent at Anantgiri. Two females shot during Christmas had ovaries dormant.

***Dendrocitta vagabunda vagabunda*** (Latham). The Indian Tree-pie.

One was seen from the train at Rajamundry in March but noted as scarce at Lamasinghi.

***Dendrocitta formosæ sarkari*** Kinnear and Whistler. The Himalayan Tree-pie.

This was noted at Lamasinghi, a small party flying across the Rest House compound every morning.

***Machlolophus xanthogenys aponoius*** (Blyth). The Yellow-cheeked Tit.

Anantgiri—Lamasinghi-

***Sitta castanea prateri*** Kinnear and Whistler. The Chestnut-bellied Nuthatch.

Anantgiri—Lamasinghi!

***Sitta frontalis frontalis*** Swainson. The Velvet-fronted Nuthatch.

Anantgiri—Lamasinghi!

***Turdoides somervillei terricolor*** (Blyth). The Jungle Babbler.

Anantgiri—Lamasinghi. Patchily distributed and not common. Waltair—Christmas!

***Pomatorhinus horsfieldii horsfieldii*** (Sykes). The Scimitar Babbler.

Anantgiri—Lamasinghi!

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<sup>1</sup> Unless otherwise stated the records are between 24th May and 3rd June.

**Dumetia hyperythra hyperythra** (Franklin). The Rufous-bellied Babbler.  
Anantgiri! Building at Lamasinghi!

† **Chrysomma sinensis sinensis** (Gmelin). The White-eyed Babbler.  
Obtained by Survey at Sankramatta.

**Pellorneum ruficeps ruficeps** Swainson. The Spotted Babbler.  
Common at Anantgiri. Lamasinghi!

† **Stachyridopsis rufifrons ambigua** Harington. The Red-fronted Babbler.  
La Personne shot a pair at Sankrametta.

**Mixornis gularis rubricapilla** (Tickell). The Yellow-breasted Babbler.

Two specimens were obtained, one at Anantgiri and the other at Lamasinghi. The latter, a male, was obviously breeding. Our experience regarding the habits of this bird was quite different from that recorded by La Personne. The bird was quite common, but was always seen singly in heavy forest keeping to the tree-tops rather than the undergrowth. The call is a loud monotonous 'chweek-chweek-chweek . . .' half-way between the call of the tailor-bird and the jungle nightjar. This call would be taken up for a few minutes at a time, with almost equal intervals of silence, the bird travelling through the trees in warbler style.

**Alcippe poiocephala brucei** Hume. The Quaker Babbler.

Lamasinghi! A male obtained had enlarged testes and was probably nesting.

**Aegithina tiphia humei** Stuart-Baker. The Iora.  
Anantgiri and Lamasinghi!

**Chloropsis aurifrons frontalis** (Peizeln). The Gold-fronted Chloropsis.  
Anantgiri!

**Chloropsis jerdoni** (Blyth). Jerdon's Chloropsis or Green Bulbul.  
Anantgiri!

**Molpastes cafer saturatus**. Kinnear and Whistler. The Red-vented Bulbul.  
Waltair. Anantgiri common. Lamasinghi very common. 2 young in nest!  
C/3.

**Otocompsa jocosa emeria** (Linnaeus). The Red-whiskered Bulbul.  
Anantgiri very common. Flushed off empty nest. Lamasinghi common.  
Building.

**Otocompsa flaviventris flaviventris** (Tickell). Black-crested Yellow Bulbul.  
Noted at both Anantgiri and Lamasinghi. A female shot at Anantgiri had quiescent ovaries.

**Pycnonotus luteolus luteolus** (Lesson). The White-browed Bush Bulbul.

In spite of the statement in the Eastern Ghats' report (*J.B.N.H.S.*, vol. 35, p. 759), this species was not noticed. During Christmas, a few birds were seen in low country scrub around Waltair.

† **Tarsiger brunnea brunnea** (Hodgson). The Blue Chat.

La Personne obtained this species at Sankramatta and in the Jeypore Agency.

**Saxicola caprata caprata**. The Pied Bush Chat.  
Anantgiri! Lamasinghi! Three young in nest!

\**Phoenicurus ochrurus* subsp. The Black Redstart.

Kondakarla 24th December and Waltair 29th Dec.!

† *Calliope calliope* (Pallas). The Ruby Throat.

La Personne found them common at Sankrametta in March and they had left by the last week in April.

*Saxicoloides fulicata intermedia* Kinnear and Whistler. The Indian Robin.

Waltair! Lamasinghi!

*Copsychus saularis saularis* Linnaeus. The Magpie-Robin or Dyal.

Lamasinghi common! Anantgiri c/5!

*Kittacincta malabarica malabarica* (Scopoi). The Shama.

Anantgiri and Lamasinghi common.

*Turdus simillimus spencei* Kinnear and Whistler. The Eastern Ghats Black-capped Black Bird.

Sankrametta and Lamasinghi!

† *Turdus unicolor* Tickell. Tickell's Ouzel.

La Personne obtained two specimens at Anantgiri in February.

† *Geokichla wardii* (Blyth). The Pied Ground Thrush.

La Personne shot one and saw another at Sankrametta and in the Jeypore Agency in April on migration.

*Geokichla citrina cyanotus* (Jardine and Selby). The White-throated Ground Thrush.

Lamasinghi common!

† *Monticola cinclorhyncha* (Vigors). The Blue-headed Rock Thrush.

La Personne obtained one evidently on migration at Anantgiri in April.

\* *Monticola solitaria pandoo* (Sykes). The Blue Rock Thrush.

Bird roosting every evening in rafters of house at Waltair during X'mas 1914.

† *Siphia parva albicilla* (Pallas). The Red-breasted Flycatcher.

La Personne obtained a female at Anantgiri on 6th February.

*Muscicapula superciliaris* (Jerdon). The White-browed Blue Flycatcher.

A blue flycatcher with a white eye-stripe was seen at Anantgiri. This appears to be very late for this species. La Personne got a female at Sankrametta on the 4th April.

† *Muscicapula rubeculoides rubeculoides* (Vigors). The Blue-throated Flycatcher.

La Personne obtained a male at Sankrametta on the 2nd April.

*Muscicapula tickelliae tickelliae* (Blyth). Tickell's Blue Flycatcher.

Nest with four young in hole in banyan 25' at Lamasinghi.

† *Muscicapula poliolegens vernayi* (Whistler).

Curiously, I did not notice this species, having confused it possibly with *M. tickelliae* of which a specimen was obtained. This blue-washed race is very similar to *tickelliae*, even in the hand, though the tail is appreciably longer.

†*Eumyias thalassina thalassina* (Swainson). The Verditer Flycatcher.

La Personne got it at Anantgiri and Sankrametta in February and March.

*Alseonax latirostris* (Raffles). The Brown Flycatcher.

Lamasinghi!

*Culicicapa ceylonensis*. The Grey-headed Flycatcher.

Several seen at Lamasinghi. Their occurrence at this time of the year indicates a resident race as suggested by Whistler, *J.B.N.H.S.*, vol. 36, p. 88, the Survey having collected specimens intermediate between *pallidior* and *ceylonensis* in March at Sankrametta.

‡ *Tchitrea paradisi paradisi* (Linn). The Paradise Flycatcher.

Anantgiri and Lamasinghi!

! *Hypothymis azurea styani* (Hartlaub). The Black-naped Blue Flycatcher.

Anantgiri and Lamasinghi. A female obtained had granular ovaries.

! *Leucocirca aureola compressirostris* (Blyth). The White-browed Fantail Flycatcher.

Anantgiri!

*Leucocirca pectoralis vernayi* (Whistler). The Eastern Ghats Spotted Fantail Flycatcher.

Anantgiri and Lamasinghi. In the field this subspecies looks appreciably different from the typical race in Bombay.

*Lanius vittatus* (Valenciennes). The Bay-backed Shrike.

Sankrametta! Lamasinghi! Waltair Christmas!

\**Lanius cristatus cristatus* (Linnaeus). The Brown Shrike.

Several were seen around Waltair during Christmas 1944.

*Lanius nasutus nigriceps* (Franklin). The Black-headed Shrike.

Anantgiri and Lamasinghi!

*Hemipus picatus picatus* (Sykes). The Black-backed Pied Shrike.

Anantgiri and Lamasinghi!

*Tephrodornis gularis* subsp. The Wood Shrike.

A female shot at Anantgiri had a 118 mm. wing and another unsexed at Lamasinghi w-119 mm. These birds appear to lack the grey tint of the southern race *sylvicola* and are probably *pelvica*.

- *Tephrodornis pondicerianus pondicerianus* (Gmelin). The Common Wood Shrike.

A female with granular ovaries was shot at Anantgiri w-89. Lamasinghi!

*Pericrocotus speciosus semiruber* Kinnear and Whistler. The Scarlet Minivet.

Anantgiri and Lamasinghi.

† *Pericrocotus roseus roseus* (Vieillot). The Rosy Minivet.

La Personne obtained this species at Sankrametta in April.

*Pericrocotus peregrinus peregrinus* (Linn). The Little Minivet.

Waltair and Anantgiri!

\***Lalage sykesi** (Strickland). The Black-headed Cuckoo Shrike.  
Lamasinghi!

\***Graucalus javensis macei** (Lesson). The Large Cuckoo Shrike.  
Waltair in March! Anantgiri! Christmas Waltair!

\***Artamus fuscus** (Vieillot). The Ashy Swallow-Shrike.  
Waltair! Also at Anakapalli in March!

\***Dicrurus macrocercus peninsularis** (Ticehurst). The Indian King-crow or Black Drongo.

Waltair common! Anantgiri! Lamasinghi common. Female wing 114. Male w-141. With young out of nest! Waltair X'mas common!

†**Dicrurus longicaudatus longicaudatus** (Jerdon). The Ashy Drongo.

La Personne obtained it at Anantgiri, Sankrametta and the Jeypore Agency in April, but we did not notice it. The previous species which he did not procure may have replaced it!?

\***Dicrurus caerulescens caerulescens** (Linn). The White-bellied Drongo.  
Anantgiri! (McCann.)

†**Chaptalia aenea malayensis** (Blyth). The Bronzed Drongo.

La Personne obtained it at Anantgiri and Sankrametta. Did we overlook it or has it gone? The absence of the Racket-tailed Drongo in this area is remarkable. Lowther found it absent in Manbhum Dist. (*J.B.N.H.S.*, vol. 41, p. 529).

†**Acrocephalus dumetorum** (Blyth). Blyth's Reed Warbler.  
La Personne at Sankrametta and Jeypore Agency.

**Orthotomus sutorius guzerata** (Latham). The Indian Tailor Bird.  
Lamasinghi!

**Franklinia gracilis** (Franklin). Franklin's Wren-Warbler.  
Anantgiri and Lamasinghi.

†**Phragmaticola aedon** (Pallas).

La Personne obtained one on migration in Jeypore Agency on 29 April.

†**Sylvia curruca blythi** (Ticehurst and Whistler). The Lesser White-throat.  
La Personne at Anantgiri.

†**Phylloscopus affinis** (Tickell). Tickell's Willow Warbler.  
La Personne at Anantgiri.

†**Phylloscopus inornatus humei** (Brooks). Hume's Yellow-browed Warbler.  
La Personne obtained it at Anantgiri and Sankrametta.

†**Phylloscopus nitidus viridanus** (Blyth). The Greenish Willow Warbler.  
La Personne obtained it at Anantgiri, Sankrametta and in the Jeypore Agency.

†**Phylloscopus trochiloides ludlowi** Whistler. The Dull-green Willow Warbler.  
La Personne obtained it at Anantgiri, Sankrametta and in the Jeypore Agency.

†*Phylloscopus occipitalis occipitalis* (Blyth). The Large-crowned Willow Warbler.

La Personne obtained it at Sankrametta.

†*Seicurus burkii whistleri* (Ticehurst). The Black-browed Flycatcher Warbler.

La Personne obtained it at Sankrametta.

†*Homochlamys pallidipes pallidipes* (Blanford). Blanford's Bush Warbler.

La Personne obtained it at Sankrametta.

†*Prinia socialis socialis* (Sykes). The Ashy Wren Warbler.

La Personne obtained it at Sankrametta and in the Jeypore Agency.

\**Prinia sylvatica sylvatica* (Jerdon). The Jungle Wren Warbler.

A male (w-63) shot at Lamasinghi had enlarged testes and was breeding. Several were seen. Also seen in scrub round Waltair during Christmas.

\**Oriolus oriolus kundoo* (Sykes). The Indian Golden Oriole.

Lamasinghi several! Also in March at Waltair and Kondasantha. May possibly breed in the hills. Waltair Christmas!

\**Oriolus xanthornus maderaspatanus* (Franklin). The Black-headed Oriole.

Kondasantha in March! Lamasinghi scarce!

*Sturnia malabarica malabarica* (Gmelin). The Grey-headed Mynah.

Chintapalli in March! Lamasinghi! Kondakarla Christmas!

\**Temenchus pagodarum* (Gmelin). The Black-headed or Brahminy Mynah.

Lamasinghi! Anantgiri!

*Acridotheres tristis tristis* (Linn). The Common Mynah.

Waltair common! Lamasinghi!

*Sturnopastor contra* (Linn). The Pied Mynah.

In March when travelling north from Madras this bird was first seen about 50 miles south of Vizagapatam. A few were noted sporadically in the low country.

\**Ploceus philippinus philippinus* (Linn). The Baya or Indian Weaver Bird.

Birds and nests were seen high up in trees near Chintapalli (not carefully glassed). On the 24th May birds were building in a *Phoenix sylvestris* near Sentanagram Station (north of Waltair).

*Uroloncha striata striata* (Linn). The White-backed Munia.

Anantgiri! Lamasinghi building.

†*Uroloncha kelaarti vernayi* (Kinnear & Whistler): The Rufous-bellied Munia.

La Personne obtained the type specimens at Sankrametta.

*Stictopiza formosa* (Latham). The Green Munia.

Lamasinghi!

†*Carpodacus erythrinus roseatus* (Blyth). The Common Rose Finch.

La Personne obtained it at Sankrametta on 30th March.

\**Gymnorhis xanthocollis xanthocollis* (Burtch). The Yellow-throated Sparrow.

Lamasinghi. Frequent in thinner forest towards Chintapalli.

\**Passer domesticus indicus* (Jardine and Selby). The Indian House Sparrow.  
Waltair!

\**Riparia concolor* (Sykes). The Dusky Crag Martin.  
On Lamasinghi ghats!

*Hirundo daurica erythrogygia* Sykes. The Indian Red-rumped Swallow.  
Anantgiri! Lamasinghi! Nests seen under bridge.

\**Hirundo rustica gutturalis* (Scopoli). The Eastern Swallow.  
Common at Kondakarla, probably this race, during Christmas.

\**Motacilla cinerea melanope* Pallas. The Grey Wagtail.  
At Chintapalli in March!

*Anthus trivialis trivialis* (Linnaeus). The Tree-pipit.

La Personne obtained this at Sankrametta and a tree pipit was noted as common round Chintapalli in March, and also around Waltair during Christmas.

*Anthus rufulus rufulus* (Vieillot). The Indian Pipit.

One was seen in a forest clearing at Lamasinghi. La Personne obtained it in the Jeypore Agency. Low country around Waltair Christmas!

\**Eremopterix grisea grisea* (Scopoli). The Black-bellied Finch Lark.  
Very common around Waltair.

*Zosterops palpebrosa occidentis* Ticehurst. The White-eye.  
Common at Anantgiri and Lamasinghi. Birds were feeding young in nest on 30th May at Lamasinghi.

*Cinnyris asiatica asiatica* (Latham). The Purple Sunbird.  
Anantgiri and Lamasinghi!

\**Cinnyris zeylonica* (Linnaeus). The Purple-rumped Sunbird.  
Chintapalli in March! Anantgiri! Nesting at Lamasinghi on 30th May.

*Dicaeum erythrorhynchos erythrorhynchos* (Latham). Tickell's Flowerpecker.  
Anantgiri and Lamasinghi!

\**Piprisoma agile agile* (Tickell). The Thick-billed Flowerpecker.  
Bird shot at Anantgiri had 62 mm. wing. Lamasinghi!

†*Pitta brachyura* (Linnaeus). The Pitta.

La Personne saw and heard it at Sankrametta.

*Picus chlorolophus chlorolophus* (Vieillot). The Small Himalayan Yellow-naped Woodpecker.

Anantgiri and Lamasinghi! Wing 120 mm.

*Dryobates macei macei* (Vieillot). The Fulvous-breasted Pied Woodpecker.

Anantgiri! Lamasinghi! Male wing 99 mm.

†*Dryobates mahrattensis mahrattensis* (Latham). The Yellow-fronted Pied Woodpecker.

La Personne obtained it at Sankrametta.



**Dryobates hardwickii hardwickii** (Jerdon). The Indian Pygmy Woodpecker.  
Anantgiri wing 81 mm. Lamasingshi!

**Micropternus brachyurus phaeiceps** (Blyth). The Rufous Woodpecker.  
Anantgiri and Lamasingshi. Female obtained had a 116 mm. wing and the stomach was packed with *Crematogaster* ants.

\***Brachypternus benghalensis puncticollis** (Malherbe). The Golden-backed Woodpecker.

Common in the low country. A female with wing 140 mm. was obtained at Narsapatam. The stomach was full of large black ants (*Camponotus*).

†**Chrysocolaptes guttacristatus guttacristatus** (Tickell). Tickell's Golden-backed Woodpecker.

La Personne obtained one at Sankrametta.

**Vivia innominatus malayorum** (Hartert). The Speckled Piculet.

Anantgiri and Lamasingshi. Wing 59 mm. Had fed on small ants. Often seen in bushes quite close to the ground.

\***Jynx torquilla** (Linnæus). The Wryneck.

Seen at Chintapalli in March.

**Thereiceryx zeylanicus caniceps** (Franklin). The Large Green Barbet.  
Anantgiri and Lamasingshi!

**Xantholaema haemacephala indica** (Latham). The Crimson-breasted Barbet.  
Anantgiri and Lamasingshi! Waltair (March)!

**Cuculus canorus** (Linnæus). The Common Cuckoo.

Common calling at Lamasingshi. Bird shot calling had wing 223 mm. and stomach full of caterpillars and covered with fat all over.

\***Cuculus micropterus** (Gould). The Indian Cuckoo.

Heard at Anantgiri and Lamasingshi.

**Hierococyx varius** (Vahl). The Common Hawk Cuckoo.

The Brain-fever bird was heard at Kondasantha (March), Anantgiri and Lamasingshi.

\***Cacomantis merulinus passerinus** (Vahl). The Plaintive Cuckoo.

Anantgiri and Lamasingshi. Bird obtained at Lamasingshi had a 108 mm. wing and had fed on red bugs.

\***Penthoceryx sonneratti sonneratii** Latham. The Banded Bay Cuckoo.

One was obtained at Anantgiri wing 116 mm.

\***Surniculus lugubris lugubris** (Horsfield). The Drongo Cuckoo.

Commonly seen and heard at Anantgiri and Lamasingshi.

\***Clamator jacobinus pica** (Hempr. & Ehr.). The Pied Crested Cuckoo.

Three birds were seen at Waltair on 1st June. A male shot (wing 145 mm.) was not breeding.

\***Eudynamys scolopaceus scolopaceus** (Linnaeus). The Indian Koel.

Waltair common! (Also at Kondasantha in March.)

\**Rhopodytes viridirostris* (Jerdon). The Small Green-billed Malkoha.

Anantgiri several (may possibly have been *R. t. tristis*, Large Himalayan Green-billed Malkoha cf. Lowther in Manbhium Dist. *J.B.N.H.S.*, vol. 41, p. 542).

†*Taccocua leschenaultii affinis* (Blyth). The Sirkeer Cuckoo.  
La Personne obtained one at Sankrametta.

*Centropus sinensis parroti* Stresemann. The Crow Pheasant.  
Heard at Anantgiri.

\**Psittacula krameri manillensis* (Bechstein). The Rose-ringed Parakeet.  
Waltair (also in March)! Lamasinghi (female, under, wing 162 mm.).

*Psittacula cyanocephala cyanocephala* (Linnaeus). The Blossom-headed Parakeet.  
Lamasinghi!

*Coryllis vernalis* (Sparren). The Indian Lorikeet.  
Common at Anantgiri and Lamasinghi.

\**Coracias benghalensis indica* (Linnæus). The Indian Blue Jay.  
Waltair common and interested in holes.

\**Merops orientalis* (Latham). The Indian Green Bee-eater.  
A party of 15-20 was seen at Anakapalli and a pair at Chintapalli. Also at Kondasantha in March. Common at Waltair during Christmas.

\**Merops superciliosus javanicus* (Horsfield). The Blue-tailed Bee-eater.

Nesting in a very scattered colony in the dry vertical sides of 20' gullies washed in laterite soil at Uplands, Waltair. One nest 4' deep contained naked young. A female wing 130 mm. had a granular ovary, but a distended oviduct. Except for a pair at Kondakarla no other birds were seen. These appear to be the southernmost breeding records unless Rhodes Morgan's records (*Ibis* 1870, p. 314) of large numbers breeding in the banks of the Kistna and Cauvery are correct. Betts also refers vaguely to this bird nesting in Coorg *J.B.N.H.S.*, vol. 39, p. 602. Recent records suggest a southward movement extending into Ceylon in September-October and a northward return for nesting between April and September-October (Chingleput Dist. Mrs. Barnes, *J.B.N.H.S.*, vol. 40, p. 467; Central India, Salim Ali, *J.B.N.H.S.*, vol. 41, p. 473; Rameswaram Island, C. H. Biddulph, *J.B.N.H.S.*, vol. 40, p. 238). During Christmas these birds were absent.

*Alcemerops atheroni* (Jardine & Selby). The Blue-bearded Bee-eater.

La Personne obtained this at Anantgiri in February. McCann saw a large bee-eater in the hills which may have been this species.

\**Ceryle rudis leucomelanura* (Reichenbach). The Pied Kingfisher.  
Kondakarla!

\**Alcedo atthis taprobana* (Kleinschmidt). The Indian Common Kingfisher.  
Anantgiri.

\**Halcyon smyrensis* (Linnaeus). The White-breasted Kingfisher.  
Common in the hills nesting in roadside cuttings, particularly at hairpin bends.  
C/5! C/3!

\**Upupa epops ceylonensis* (Reichenbach). The Ceylon Hoopoe.

Very patchily distributed in the higher forests both at Anantgiri and Lamasinghi. Two were collected at 3,000'. A juvenile with a soft skull had wing 129 mm. and another wing 122. Stomach contained remains of *Cicadae*. Also seen in March. Several (subsp.?) seen in low country during Christmas.

**Harpactes fasciatus malabaricus** (Gould). The Malabar Trogon.

Female with soft egg in oviduct (wing 128 mm.) was obtained at Anantgiri, face patch bright cobalt blue. Also seen in Lamasinghi area in March.

\***Micropus affinis affinis** (Gray). The Common Indian House Swift.

Common at Waltair, also at Bobbili.

**Cypsiurus parvus batassiensis** (Griffith). The Palm Swift.

Common at Waltair and the low country though relatively not nearly as abundant as the *Borassus* palm. Also at Anantgiri and Lamasinghi though the *Borassus* did not occur so high, but *Caryota urens* was present.

**Hemiprocne coronata** (Tickell). The Crested Swift.

Anantgiri and Lamasinghi!

**Caprimulgus macrourus albonotus** Tickell. Horsfield's Nightjar.

A young bird was shot dusting itself on the road at Chintapalli.

\***Caprimulgus indicus indicus** Latham. The Jungle Nightjar.

Shot on road along cliffside at Sankrametta 3,500'. Testes 4×5 mm. Heard lower at Kondasantha in March, also at Lamasinghi.

\***Caprimulgus asiaticus asiaticus** Latham. The Little Indian Nightjar.

Heard at Kondasantha in March.

\***Ketupa zeylonensis leschenaulti** (Temminck). The Brown Fish Owl.

A female shot at Lamasinghi had dormant ovaries and a 384 mm. wing.

\***Bubo bubo bengalensis** (Franklin). The Rock-horned Owl.

Heard at Kondakarla on 24th December 1944.

\***Athene brama brama** (Temminck). The Spotted Owlet.

Waltair!

\***Glaucidium radiatum radiatum** (Tickell). The Jungle Owlet.

Anantgiri heard. Kondasantha in March heard.

\***Pandion haliaetus haliaetus** (Linn.). The Osprey.

Seen at Kondakarla on 30th December.

**Sarcogyps calvus** (Scopoli). The King Vulture.

Lamasinghi! Waltair!

\***Gyps indicus indicus** (Scopoli). The Indian Long-billed Vulture.

Waltair and Kondakarla!

\***Pseudogyps bengalensis** (Gmelin). The Indian White-backed Vulture.

Waltair! Lamasinghi.

\***Neophron percnopterus ginginianus** (Latham). The Smaller Scavenger Vulture.

Waltair common!

\***Falco jugger** Gray. The Lugger Falcon.

Specimen obtained over lake at Kondakarla on 31st December. Stomach contained remains of bird.

\***Ictinaetus malayensis perniger** (Hodgson). The Black Eagle.

Lamasinghi!

\***Haematornis cheela melantotis** (Jerdon). The Serpent Eagle.  
 Female shot at Anantgiri had a wing 439 mm. and dormant ovaries. The stomach contained the remains of a snake. Lamasinghi!

\***Butastur teesa** (Franklin). The White-eyed Buzzard.  
 Lamasinghi!

\***Haliaeetus leucogaster** (Gmelin). The White-bellied Sea Eagle.  
 Vizagapatam and Kondakarla!

\***Haliaeetus indus indus** (Boddaert). The Brahminy Kite.  
 Waltair!

**Milvus migrans govinda** Sykes. The Indian Pariah Kite.  
 Waltair common! Lamasinghi!

\***Circus melanoleucos** (Pennant). The Pied Harrier.  
 Kondakarla in March!

\***Circus aeruginosus aeruginosus** (Linnaeus). The Marsh Harrier.  
 Common all the way north to Vizagapatam from Madras in March.

\***Astur badius dussumieri** Temminck and Lang. The Indian Shikra.  
 Lamasinghi! Anantgiri! Kondakarla Christmas!

**Astur trivirgatus indicus** Hodgson. The Himalayan Crested Goshawk.  
 A female (wing 257 mm.) was obtained at Lamasinghi. The ovaries were dormant. La Personne obtained a male (wing 220 mm.) on 28th April.

\***Pernis ptilorhynchus ruficollis** Lesson. The Crested Honey Buzzard.  
 A female (wing 400 mm.) shot at Anantgiri had a dormant ovary. The stomach contained remains of a small bird.

**Dendrophassa bicincta bicincta** (Jerdon). The Orange-breasted Green Pigeon.  
 Lamasinghi frequent!

\***Chalcophaps indica indica** (Linnaeus). The Bronze-winged or Emerald Dove.  
 Common at Anantgiri and Lamasinghi (also in March). A male shot had testes 3x4 mm., wing 143 mm.

\***Columba livia intermedia** Strickland. The Indian Blue Rock Pigeon.  
 Common at Vizagapatam.

**Ducula badia cuprea** (Jerdon). **Alsocomus puniceus**. (Tickell).

*The Vizagapatam Gazetteer* 1907, p. 23 reads: 'In the hills the Imperial pigeon is not uncommon and a brown pigeon with a white head is seen now and again.' Ball recorded this Imperial Pigeon from Jeypore and the Purple Wood Pigeon was obtained by Mooney in the Singhbhum District where he says it is local but was noted through 'the forest tracts of Orissa southwards to the borders of Madras (Presidency)' (*J.B.N.H.S.*, vol. 37, p. 735).

\***Streptopelia orientalis** subsp.? The Rufous Turtle Dove.  
 Seen at Anantgiri.

\***Streptopelia chinensis suratensis** (Gmelin). The Spotted Dove.  
 Common in hills. Two birds shot at Lamasinghi had their organs dormant. Also around Waltair during Christmas.

\***Streptopelia senegalensis cambayensis** (Gmelin). The Little Brown Dove.

This was noted both in the hills and at Waltair in March but not seen on this occasion. Waltair Christmas!

\***Streptopelia decaocto decaocto** Frivaldszky. The Indian Ring Dove.

Recorded as common round Vizagapatam in March but not noted on this trip. Waltair Christmas!

**Pavo cristatus** Linnaeus. The Peafowl.

The *Gazetteer* states that 'peafowl are common all over the hills, and the Savaras catch them by chasing them from side to side of a steep narrow valley until they are exhausted'. Not seen or heard though reported by shikari.

\***Gallus gallus murghi** Robinson and Kloss. The Red Jungle Fowl.

Anantgiri and Lamasinghi, but not abundant. C/5 were taken at Lamasinghi.

\***Galloperdix spadicea spadicea** (Gmelin). The Red Spur Fowl.

Lamasinghi!

\***Cryptoplectron erythrorhynchum**. The Painted Bush Quail.

In small parties in forest clearings under grass and stumps. Two males shot had their testes  $3 \times 2$  mm. and wings 83 and 86 mm. The bright red beak is very noticeable as the bird flies across.

\***Francolinus pictus pictus** (Jardine & Selby). The Painted Partridge.

A solitary bird was flushed off the road between Lamasinghi and Chintapalli at about 2,500'.

\***Francolinus pondicerianus pondicerianus** (Gmelin). The Gray Partridge.

Waltair!

**Turnix tanki tanki** Blyth. The Large Yellow-legged Button Quail.

La Personne shot this bird at Sankrametta. Some sort of button quail was seen and heard drumming at Lamasinghi. A largish odd-sized pair of quail flushed in scrub on hill side was probably this species.

\***Porzana pusilla pusilla** (Pallas). Baillon's Crake.

Single bird shot at Kondakarla on 24th December 1944.

\***Gallinula chloropus indicus** Blyth. The Indian Moorhen.

Kondakarla 24th December 1944. Two shot and several seen.

\***Fulica atra atra** Linnaeus. The Coot.

Common at Kondakarla. Three birds shot (2nd June) were all females with granular ovaries.

\***Hydrophasianus chirurgus** (Scopoli). The Pheasant-tailed Jacana.

Common at Kondakarla (also in March in off plumage).

\***Larus brunicephalus** Jerdon. The Brown-headed Gull.

Small parties in Vizagapatam Harbour, Christmas 1944. Identified by the 'mirror' in the wings.

\***Lobivanellus indicus indicus** (Boddaert). The Red-wattled Lapwing.

Waltair in March! Lamasinghi, (McCann)!

\***Tringa ochropus** (Linnaeus). The Green Sand-piper.

Christmas 1944 a few at Kondakarla!

\***Tringa hypoleucos** Linnaeus. The Common Sand-piper.

Christmas 1944, a few seen at Kondakarla!

\***Tringa glareola** (Linnaeus). Green Sand-piper.

Commonest wader at Kondakarla. Christmas 1944.

**Scolopax rusticola** Linnaeus.

The *Gazetteer* states 'of the rarer game birds, the Woodcock has been seen around Padera'. Padera is in the hills, west of Sankrametta. I did not see a single snipe during Christmas—the soil is perhaps too sandy.

**Pelecanus onocrotalus** Linnaeus. The Roseate Pelican.

Recorded from Kondakarla by S. C. Law (*J.B.N.H.S.*, vol. 30, p. 483).

\***Pelecanus roseus** Gmelin. The Gray or Spot-billed Pelican.

Male shot at Kondakarla had fed on fish 1" to 3" long.

\***Phalacrocorax niger** (Vieillot). The Small Cormorant.

Several seen at Kondakarla 24th December 1944.

\***Anhinga melanogaster** Pennant. The Snake Bird or Darter.

Kondakarla!

\***Egretta intermedia intermedia** (Wagler). The Middle Egret.

Kondakarla and Waltair!

\***Egretta garzetta garzetta** (Linnaeus). The Little Egret.

Kondakarla and Waltair!

**Ardeola grayii** (Sykes). The Pond Heron or Paddy Bird.

Waltair!

**Phoenicopterus ruber roseus** Pallas. The Flamingo.

S. C. Law noted flocks flying south at Vizagapatam in August (*J.B.N.H.S.*, vol. 30, p. 483).

**Rhodonessa caryophyllacea** (Latham). The Pink-headed Duck.

Old records (*Game Birds*, Hume & Marshall, iii, p. 175) from Kondakarla.

**Netapus coromandelianus coromandelianus** (Gmelin). The Cotton Teal.

Several were shot at Kondakarla on 2nd June. The females had granular ovaries and the testes of the males measured 8×4 mm. A flapper with moulting quills was shot during Christmas.

\***Dendrocygna javanica** (Horsfield). The Smaller Whistling Teal.

Kondakarla!

**Anas poecilorhyncha poecilorhyncha** Forster. The Indian Spot-billed Duck.

Mr. R. F. Stoney has shot it in the Vizagapatam District (*J.B.N.H.S.*, vol. 39, p. 460).

**Chaulelasmus streperus** (Linnaeus). The Gadwall.

Mr. R. F. Stoney has shot a few in the Vizagapatam District (*J.B.N.H.S.*, vol. 39, p. 460). 'One of the commonest duck in this area' (*Gazetteer* 1907, p. 23).

\***Casarca ferruginea** (Vroeg). The Brahminy Duck.

Seen at Kondakarla during Christmas.

\***Dafila acuta** (Linnaeus). The Pintail.

Wing of bird shot near Vizagapatam during Christmas examined.



1. An early spring vista along a subsidiary valley in Kashmir—a favoured haunt of the Ibis-bill.



2. Alert and with measured tread, the Ibis-bill approaches the nest.